REMARKS

Applicant has amended claims 4, 21, 27, 49, 66 and 72 in order to more particularly define the claimed invention. An early and favorable action is respectfully requested.*

Respectfully submitted,

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on <u>October 6, 2004</u>

Claire J. Saintil-van Goodman

Name of Person Signing Certificate

Signature of Person Signing Certificate

Date of Signature

Applicant respectfully submits that none of these amendments is a "substantial amendment related to patentability" under the doctrine of Festo Corp. v. Shoketsu Kinzoku Kogyo Kabushiki Co., 535 U.S. 722, 62 USPQ2d 1705 (2002), and related cases. Moreover, insofar as each of these amendments merely clarifies the claims, none is believed to be a narrowing amendment under that doctrine, and at least the amendments of claims 27 and 72 are actually broadening amendments.